

REMARKS

The Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter is noted with appreciation.

Counsel also thanks Examiner D. Chung for the courtesy of an interview held on May 12, 2006.

At the interview, a proposed amendment to claim 1 has been discussed. The Examiner kindly indicated that the added/amended feature of --a first projection lens for enlarging the polarized light beam received from the polarizing means and projecting the enlarged polarized light beam onto the LCD screen panel-- appears to define over the primarily applied references. The feature has been now added to independent claim 1.

The Examiner further indicated that the claims would be in better form if the relative position between the components is clarified. New claim 21 has been added to define the claimed invention in the manner kindly suggested by the Examiner, i.e., --wherein the first projection lens is positioned downstream of said polarizing means and upstream of said LCD screen panel--.

Finally, the Examiner indicated that the preamble can be changed from "television" to --device-- without raising any issues. Claims 1-17 have been amended accordingly.

Claims 2-17 have been further amended to be consistent with the amended language of independent claim 1. Allowed claims 18-20 remain unchanged. The Abstract has been revised to be compliant with commonly accepted US patent practice. No new matter has been introduced through the foregoing amendments.

Independent claim 1 as well as claims 2-3 depending therefrom are patentable over the applied art of record for the following reasons, which have been discussed at the interview.

In particular, the claimed first projection lens is configured for enlarging the polarized light beam received from the polarizing means and projecting the enlarged polarized light beam onto the LCD screen panel. This limitation is supported by FIG.1b of the application s filed. As shown, the projection lens 108a enlarges and projects the polarized light 112 emitted from the projection-based backlight system 108 to the first mirror106. The polarized light 112 is then redirected by the first mirror 106 to the LCD screen panel 104. As disclosed in Yamauchi, a convex lens 17 is provided at almost a midpoint between the cylindrical lens 10b and the liquid crystal panel instead of the focusing lens 6. The convex lens 17 also serves to make a convolution of luminous flux segments formed due to division by the integrator optical system 5 on the liquid crystal panel, similar to the case of the focusing lens 6. *See column 13, 41-47*. Therefore, the convex lens 17 has the function similar to that of the focusing lens 6. Additionally, in Yamauchi, the focusing lens 6 arranged behind the cylindrical lens array 10b serves to make a convolution of segmented luminous flux, which segments are formed due to division by the fly-eye lens-arrays, on the liquid crystal panel 1. *See column 12, lines 6-10*. Thus, focusing lens 6/17 is not readable on the claimed projection lens.

Yamauchi discloses a “real” projection lens 63 that the display images on reflection liquid crystal panels 1R, 1G and 1B are projected and imaged on a screen 64 through a projection lens 63 as a projection lens system. *See FIG. 30 and column 23, lines 40-47*. Therefore, in Yamauchi, the projection lens 63 is arranged in the optical path from the LCD light valve 1 to the screen 64. The screen 64 is, however, not a LCD screen and a viewer can only see the enlarged image via the screen 64. The screen 64 is for viewing purpose only and cannot selectively screen out the light as desired. Thus, lens 63 is not readable on the claimed projection lens.

In comparison with Yamauchi, the claimed projection lens is arranged to project light onto the LCD screen panel. It is adapted for receiving the polarized light from the polarizing means, enlarging and projecting the polarized light onto the LCD screen panel. The claimed projection lens is very different from the convex lens 17/6 of Yamauchi. Accordingly, the claimed invention is not

anticipated by Yamauchi.

As to Ohuchi, the light from the projection lens 3 (Fig. 2) is projected onto the display screen. However, the display screen is not a LCD screen panel. It is very different from the claimed LCD screen panel. Furthermore, the light enters liquid crystal display element 2 before being projected onto the projection lens 3. However, the claimed projection lens is arranged to project light onto LCD screen panel. Note the discussion supra with respect to the claimed invention vs. Yamauchi. Accordingly, the claimed invention is not anticipated by Ohuchi.

Claims 2, 3, and 21 depend from claim 1 and are considered patentable at least for the reasons advanced with respect to claim 1. Claims 2 and 21 are also patentable on their own merits reciting other features of the invention neither disclosed, taught nor suggested by the applied art.

For example, in FIG. 2 of Ohuchi, mirrors 15-17, 20, 22 and 23 are arranged before the projection lens 3. However, the claimed mirror is for receiving the polarized light from the projection lens and is therefore arranged after the projection lens. The claimed mirror of claim 2 is not anticipated by Ohuchi.

As to claim 21, the applied references do not teach or suggest that the first projection lens is positioned downstream of said polarizing means and upstream of said LCD screen panel, as presently claimed and discussed with the Examiner at the interview.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that all claims, i.e., claims 1-21, are now in condition for allowance. Early and favorable indication of allowance is courteously solicited.


The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned, Applicant's attorney of record, to facilitate advancement of the present application.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby

made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 07-1337 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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